

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FARM ADVISER

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NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

BALTIMORE BUSINESS MEN HOLD AN
IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL
CONFERENCE.

College Park, Md., Sept. 16.

One hundred representative business men of Baltimore gathered at the Custom House yesterday for the purpose of evolving plans to bring in closer touch the business interests of the city and the business interests of the Maryland farmer. They were addressed by Dr. Bradford Knapp, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who has charge of the Extension work of the Southern States, conducted in co-operation with the Agricultural College. Dr. Knapp in his address emphasized the necessity of establishing county agricultural agents in all the counties of Maryland, there being at present thirteen located in the State.

"What the business men of Balti-

more should do," said Dr. Knapp, "is to co-operate in a practical way with the Maryland farmer. City banks could well afford to invest their funds in the erection of farm buildings, silos, etc., that would facilitate improved methods of farming and increase the earning capacity of the farmer. Bumper crops are not the only sign of prosperity. Real agricultural prosperity is founded only on the establishment of sound, sane and progressive business methods on the farm.

"Further, every agricultural resource of the State should be made available. Productive land should not remain idle in Maryland as it does. If the proper spirit on the part of Baltimore business interests were manifested such land would have been bought up long ago. The sun-baked prairies of the West sell at \$200 an acre, while in Maryland land which, in the short space of one year, would be productive of bumper crops lies idle when obtainable at \$30 to \$50 an acre.

"Many city interests have sought to bring about a diversification of agriculture and the improvement of agricultural methods in the country lying about them, but have failed simply because they did not realize the comparative slowness with which such changes are brought about in any agricultural district. No activity on the part of city interests can be expected to revolutionize, of their own initiative, the farming methods of the surrounding country. Their only effective way is through the agencies established by the Federal Department and the Agricultural College, and in co-operation with them. It is fallacy to expect agricultural methods to change appreciably in one year or five even under the most favorable conditions toward

enlightenment."

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. B. H. Rawls, Chief of the Federal Dairy Division, who especially emphasized the value of livestock in a permanent agricultural system, and pointed out in what ways the business interests could influence the farmer toward adopting more constructive methods of production.

The meeting concluded with the passage of a resolution calling for the establishment of a Baltimore City Advisory Council on Maryland Agricultural and Horticultural Extension, which will have on it representatives of all business interests of Baltimore City.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE OPENS WITH RECORD-BREAKING ENROLMENT

College Park, Md., Sept. 17.

The Maryland Agricultural College opened for the new school year yesterday at noon. The enrolment to date is 310, with a Freshman class of 91, which figures break the record for all previous attendance. Although quite a number of the students come from outside the State, the great bulk are of Maryland birth and training, every section being well represented. Entering as it does on its first year as a strictly State-owned institution, the Maryland Agricultural College promises to draw more and more from the great mass of Maryland youth who are seeking a practical technical education in agriculture, engineering and allied sciences.

The teaching staff of the College has been supplemented by assistants in the agricultural, horticultural and electrical engineering division:

The following appointments were announced by President H. J. Patterson to take effect with the opening of the school year; A. C. Stan-

ton, Assistant in Animal Husbandry; J. R. Christie, Assistant in Entomology and Zoology; and C. L. Hodgins, Assistant in Electrical Engineering.

**GIRLS' HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB
GIVES DEMONSTRATION OF METHODS
AT TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.**

College Park, Md., Sept. 18.

At the recent Teachers' Institute in Allegheny county Mrs. L. S. Powell, the local Home Demonstration Agent, arranged for a very successful series of talks and demonstrations in connection with her work in the county. The special feature of the week, from a demonstration viewpoint, was the bringing to Cumberland of the Girls' Home Demonstration Club, which was organized earlier in the year at Lord. The members of the club arrived in the morning and were escorted to the Green Street School, where they were to hold their demonstration of the activities of a Girls' Home Demonstration Club. Previous to the demonstration they proceeded to prepare their own dinner, under the supervision of Miss Florence J. Hunt, State Assistant in Home Demonstration work. Following the dinner, members of the club held an exhibition meeting in the presence of a large number of Allegheny teachers. Miss Marie Kaefer, president of the club, opened the meeting by introducing Miss Hunt, who gave a short talk. Next on the program was a demonstration in canning peaches in glass, under the direction of Mrs. Powell. Miss Ola Powell, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, then gave an address on the use of various practical devices for household use, including the iceless refrigerator, fireless cooker, improved fly traps, etc., concluding her talk with an explanation of canning fruit and vegetables in tin cans. The meeting ended with a half hour, during which many questions were asked and answered, showing the live interest taken by the members of the club in its work, as well as giving the rural teachers in

attendance an opportunity to become more fully acquainted with the work. Several other valuable talks on home demonstrations were given during the Institute by Miss K. A. Pritchett, Home Demonstration Agent for Maryland; Miss Florence J. Hunt, Assistant in Home Demonstration work, and Mrs. Powell, the local agent for Allegheny county. The hearty co-operation given the home demonstration workers by School Superintendent J. E. Edwards promises well for the work during the coming school year.

**HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT IS
LOCATED IN KENT COUNTY.**

College Park, Md., Sept. 17.

Kent county has secured a Home Demonstration Agent in the person of Miss Helen Comstock, a graduate in Home Economics of Cornell University. Miss Comstock arrived here to-day, where she is in conference with Miss K. A. Pritchett, who has supervision over Home Demonstration work in the State.

Miss Pritchett will accompany Miss Comstock to Chestertown, which will be the headquarters for county demonstration work. Miss Comstock will co-operate largely with the schools of the county in carrying on the work among the girls, which will include the organization of clubs in various home industries, such as breadmaking, sewing, home decoration, canning, poultry keeping, and the preparation of dairy products.

In addition to her field work under the Home Economic Division of Cornell University, Miss Comstock has taken special work in poultry and dairying which will add much to her practical efficiency in developing these lines. Kent county is to be congratulated on securing a home demonstration agent of Miss Comstock's ability and training.

**FIELD SELECTION OF SEED CORN
IS ADVISED.**

College Park, Md., Sept. 18.

The Extension Service is recommending to all farmers desiring to

improve their corn yield by proper seed selection to make this selection before cutting their corn. This point is being impressed upon members of the Boys' Corn Clubs in the State by their Agricultural Agents, as much good seed has been introduced into a large number of Maryland neighborhoods through seed selection in connection with Boys' Club work. In regard to seed corn selection, Prof. Schmitz, of the Maryland Experiment Station, says:

"The only proper way to select seed corn is from the standing stalks. As soon as the crop ripens, go through the field with a basket or bag hung across the shoulder and husk the corn from desirable stalks that have produced good-sized ears without having any special advantages of air, moisture and fertility. Avoid very large ears on stalks standing single or with a large amount of space around them. Preference should be given those plants that have produced well in competition with a full stand. Late-maturing plants with ears which are heavy because of an excessive amount of sap should be passed by; sapiness is likely to destroy quality. Everything being equal, short, thick stalks are preferable. They are not so easily blown down, permit thicker planting, and in general are more productive than slender stalks. The position of the ear is also important. It should not be too high, as the higher the ear is placed on the stalk the more apt the stalk is to blow down in case of a storm. The ear should also have a tendency to droop rather than to point upward, because of the danger of water getting into the husk and causing sprouting or molding. It is an inherited tendency of corn to produce suckers; therefore, other things being equal, seed should be taken from stalks not having suckers."

